

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 PC-01 ACDA-07 OC-06 CCO-00 SY-05  
OMB-01 TRSE-00 OPR-02 A-01 MCT-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00  
INRE-00 SCA-01 SCS-03 DHA-02 EB-08 AID-05 /128 W  
-----271310Z 010961 /45

O 271120Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3277

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER//ECJ4/7 IMMEDIATE

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

DIA WASH DC IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI IMMEDIATE

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 2 KINSHASA 3983

PASS PEACE CORPS

USIA FOR IAA, IOP

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, PINS, AEMR, CG, AO

SUBJECT: SHABA INVASION: SITREP 45 (APRIL 27, 1977)

1. FOLLOWING IS THE 45TH MISSION-WIDE SURVEY INCLUDING REPORTS

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FROM LUBUMBASHI.

MILITARY SITUATION AS OF 261700Z APR 77.

NOTE: ALL GEOGRAPHIC REFERENCES ARE TAKEN FROM JOINT OPERATIONS  
GRAPHIC SERIES 1501 MAPS.

2. HOSTILE FORCES:

A. DDN HAS RECEIVED NO REPORTS OF CONTACT WITH HOSTILE FORCES FROM ANY FAZ ELEMENT. APPARENTLY HOSTILE FORCES ARE AVOIDING CONTACT COMPLETELY, RELYING ONLY ON MINES TO IMPEDE THE FAZ ADVANCE.

B. APPARENTLY FAZ CONTINUES TO MONITOR HOSTILE FORCES RADIO TRANSMISSIONS. ONE THEME FREQUENTLY REPORTED IN CONVERSATIONS IS TRAINING ON SABOTAGE. REPORTEDLY THE HOSTILE FORCES BELIEVE YOUNGER TROOPS ARE NOT SUITED FOR THIS, BUT RATHER THE OLDER ONES WITH PREVIOUS MILITARY EXPERIENCE ARE CONSIDERED THE BEST PROSPECTS FOR SUCH TRAINING.

C. LOCAL PRESS REPORTS THAT PRES. MOBUTU, ACCOMPANIED BY BG SINGA, SHABA COMMISSIONER ENGULU AND OTHER OFFICIALS, VISITED COL IKUKU'S COMMAND POST IN MUTSHATSHA VIA FAZA HELICOPTER ON 260925Z APR, WHERE CAPTURED ARMS AND MUNITIONS WERE INSPECTED. REPORTEDLY THE MAJORITY OF THIS MATERIAL WAS OF RUSSIAN MANUFACTURE, CONSISTING OF ANTI-TANK AND ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES, ROCKETS (2.7 INCH AND 83MM), MORTAR AMMUNITION (CALIBER NOT REPORTED) AND MORTAR BASE PLATES (TYPE NOT REPORTED). (SAME INFORMATION PROVIDED BY AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI.)

3. ZAIRIAN FORCES:

A. ACCORDING TO A REPORT RECEIVED FROM BG SINGA AT 261600Z APR 77, FAZ ELEMENTS HAVE REACHED THE WEST BANK OF THE MUKULESHI RIVER IN THE VICINITY OF 1029S/2417E. FAZ ELEMENTS UNDER COL IKUKU ARE: MUKOBO BATTALION LEADING; 2ND DIR; BILOLO BATTALION; AND 3RD DIR. THE ROAD AND RAIL BRIDGES ACROSS THE MUKULESHI ARE INTACT BUT IN POOR CONDITION.

B. THE VUADI BATTALION HAS RETURNED TO KAFAKUMBA (0940S/2346E).  
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APPARENTLY LTC VUADI BECAME CONVINCED THERE WERE NO HOSTILE FORCES AT KAFAKUMBA. THE REINFORCING COMPANY (150 MEN) FROM THE MIKONDO BRIGADE HAS JOINED THE VUADI BATTALION. THE BRIDGE (0941S/2346E) ACROSS THE LUEO RIVER, WEST OF KAFAKUMBA TOWARD TSHIPAO, WAS APPARENTLY BLOWN BY VUADI. TSHIPAO (0941S/2344E) IS SAID TO BE DESERTED.

C. FAZ ELEMENTS FROM THE TWO KASAI HAVE MADE PROGRESS TOWARD KAPANGA (0821S/2240E). A MIXED COMPANY OF GENDARMES AND INFANTRY HAS ADVANCED FROM MWENE DITU (0700S/2327E) IN KASAI ORIENTAL (6TH MILITARY REGION) SOME 50 KMS TO MWANA TSHINANA (0818S/2322E), APPARENTLY WITH NO RESISTANCE. A 130 MAN COMPANY FROM THE 1ST INF BATTALION (5TH MILITARY REGION KASAI OCCIDENTAL BG ELUMBA'S COMMAND) IS NOW AT TSHISANGO (0803S/2229E). ANOTHER 120 MAN COMPANY OF THE 1ST INF BATTALION IS NOW AT MATA (0755S/2158E) AFTER A MODEST ADVANCE.

D. BELGIAN AND FAZ STAFF OFFICERS AT DDN ARE VERY PLEASED TO HAVE RECEIVED SITREPS FROM EACH OF THE THREE SUB-SECTORS 26 APR.

E. AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI REPORTS AZAP ANNOUNCED THE RECAPTURE

OF KASAJI. CONSULATE COMMENT: IT POSSIBLE FOR 230 KM DISTANCE TO BE EASILY COVERED IN FOUR OR FIVE HOURS IF NO COMPLICATIONS ENCOUNTERED. IF KASAJI IS IN FACT RECAPTURED, IT WOULD SEEM THE INVADING FORCE DECIDED NOT TO CONTEST FAZ AT LEAST FOR THE TIME BEING. THREE EXPLANATIONS SEEM POSSIBLE; (1) THE INVADERS WERE OVEREXTENDED AND NEVER HAD CAPABILITY TO RESIST AN ATTACK, (2) THE INVADERS HAVE RETREATED INTO THE BUSH FOR FUTURE GUERRILLA OPERATIONS TO AVOID UNNECESSARY CASUALTIES AND ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THE MOROCCANS WILL NOT REMAIN LONG IN ZAIRE, AND (3) THE INVADERS ARE DRAWING FAZ AND THE MOROCCANS INTO A TRAP FOR ATTACK FAR FROM THEIR SUPPLY BASE AT KOLWEZI. SINCE THE RAINY SEASON IS NOW COMING TO AN END IN THE CONTESTED AREA AND THE GRASSES SHOULD BE DRY ENOUGH FOR FAZ TO BURN IN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS, THE INVADERS MUST DECIDE QUICKLY WHAT THEIR STRATEGY WILL BE FOR THE COMING MONTHS. EMBASSY COMMENT: WE HAVE NO DDN CONFIRMATION OF RECAPTURE OF KASAJI.

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4. MOROCCAN FORCES:

- A. 1ST AND 4TH DIR -- NO CHANGE IN LOCATION REPORTED.
- B. 2ND AND 3RD DIR -- VICINITY OF MUKULESHI RIVER WITH COL. IKUKU.

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04

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OMB-01 TRSE-00 OPR-02 A-01 MCT-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00

INRE-00 SCA-01 SCS-03 DHA-02 EB-08 AID-05 /128 W

-----271311Z 011113 /45

O 271145Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3278

INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

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AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER//ECJ4/7 IMMEDIATE  
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
DIA WASH DC IMMEDIATE  
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI IMMEDIATE  
USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTION 2 OF 2 KINSHASA 3983

PASS PEACE CORPS  
USIA FOR IAA, IOP

5. AIR:

A. ACCORDING TO A BELGIAN STAFF OFFICER, THE VISIT OF PRES. MOBUTU TO SHABA WAS VERY HARD ON AIR ASSETS, PARTICULARLY HELICOPTERS AND BUFFALOS. ALL ARE OVERDUE SCHEDULED MAINTENANCE WHICH COMPLICATES DDN PLANNING EFFORTS FOR EMPLOYING AIRMOBILE/  
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AIRBORNE FORCES TO CUT OFF THE HOSTILE FORCES ROUTE OF WITHDRAWAL.

B. KAMINA BASE IS STILL LISTED AS HAVING 5 MIRAGES, ONE BUFFALO, 3 CESSNAS, AND ONE PUMA. THE BUFFALO AND PUMA ARE BOTH DOWN FOR MAINTENANCE.

TWO AIR ZAIRE DC-8'S SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE KINSHASA (ONE 27 APR AND ONE 28 APR) FROM FRANCE WITH MUNITIONS (81MM MORTARS, 7.62 MM AND ROCKETS FOR MIRAGE AIRCRAFT).

D. ONE US CHARTER DC-8 (AIRLIFT INTER) ARRIVED KINSHASA 261800Z APR 77 WITH TENTAGE, C-130 AIRCRAFT SPARES AND FUEL BLADDER ACCESSORIES. SAME AIRCRAFT SCHEDULED TO RETURN KINSHASA FROM ITALY APPROX 271545Z APR WITH C RATIONS.

E. ONE US CHARTER DC-8 (WORLD AIRWAYS ARRIVED KINSHASA 270550Z APR WITH MEDICAL SUPPLIES, C-130 AIRCRAFT AND VEHICLE SPARES. THIS AIRCRAFT WILL ALSO RETURN 28 APR WITH C-RATIONS FROM ITALY.

F. ONE ADDITIONAL US AIRCRAFT (USAF C-141) SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE KINSHASA APPROX 271100Z WITH SIMILAR TYPE NON LETHAL SUPPLIES.

G. ONE ADDITIONAL AN-12 EGYPTIAN AIR FORCE AIRCRAFT SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE KINSHASA FOR LOCAL HAUL.

H. KINSHASA-SHABA CARGO BACKLOG REPORTED SITREP 39 NO LONGER EXISTS AS IT HAS ALL BEEN MOVED TO SHABA. ARRIVAL OF NEW CARGO WILL PRESUMABLY CREATE NEW BACKLOG. HOWEVER, AIRCRAFT ASSETS ARE CURRENTLY SUCH THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO EXCESSIVE DELAYS IN DELIVERING TO SHABA.

6. DOMESTIC PRESS: KINSHASA MEDIA BUOYED APRIL 27 BY CONTINUED

ADVANCE OF FAZ/MOROCCAN FORCES TOWARD DILOLO. MOBUTU TRIP TO SHABA, HIS VISIT TO MUTSHATSHA HIGHLIGHTED BY MEDIA WITH /SALONGO" ALSO NOTING ARRIVAL OF NIGERIAN FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER IN LUBUMBASHI. "ELIMA" RUNS LENGTHY NEW CHINA NEWS AGENCY BLAST OF SOVIETS' ROLE IN SHABA INVASION. IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMENTARY, "ELIMA" STATES THAT ANGOLA "REPRESENTS A PERMANENT DANGER" FOR ITS AFRICAN NEIGHBORS AND A "TRUE MENACE" FOR ALL AFRICA AS WELL. "ELIMA" EDITORIAL AGAIN DECLARES THAT "THE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF ZAIRE WILL NEVER BE QUESTIONED OR MADE THE OBJECT OF NEGOTIATION." "SALONGO" "SALONGO" EDITORIAL SPEAKS  
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OF THE "CERTAINTY OF VICTORY" AND LAUDS ALL SEGEMENTS OF THE POPULATION FOR RALLYING TO MOBUTU'S SUPPORT. ZAIRE PRESS AGENCY (AZAP) EDITORIAL CALLS CAPTURE OF MUTSHATSHA A "TRUE GIFT" FOR MOBUTU. "THE BELL HAVING SOUNDED, THE VICTORY IS THE PEOPLE'S."

7. DOMESTIC POLITICAL SITUATION:

A. KINSHASA: BUSINESS AS USUAL. THE RETAKING OF MUTSHATSHA BY FAZ/MOROCCAN FORCES AND THE PRESIDENT'S HIGHLY PUBLICIZED VISIT TO THE AREA APPEARS TO HAVE CAST AT LEAST A PORTION OF KINSHASA'S OPPOSITION CROWD INTO THE DOLDRUMS.

B. LUBUMBASHI: BUSINESS AS USUAL. ALTHOUGH PRESIDENT MOBUTU IS STAYING AT HIS LUBUMBASHI RESIDENCE, HE IS SPENDING THE WORKING DAY IN OTHER TOWNS AND RETURNING HERE ONLY AT NIGHT.

C. KOLWEZI: COMMERCIAL LIFE SEEMS TO BE IMPROVING. SHIPMENTS OF GOODS HAVE BEGUN MOVING IN AND OUT OF KOLWEZI WITH LESS DIFFICULTY. TRAVEL DOCUMENTS ARE ALSO REPORTEDLY EASIER TO OBTAIN.

D. KAMINA: NO CHANGE REPORTED.

E. MUTSHATSHA: JOURNALISTS WHO ACCOMPANIED THE PRESIDENT TO MUTSHATSHA STATED THAT THERE WERE NO CIVILIANS IN THE AREA NOR ANY SIGNS OF FIGHTING IN THE TOWN ITSELF. ONE OF THE THIRTY HOUSES IN TOWN HAD BEEN DESTROYED BY A FAZ BOMB AND A FEW HOUSES WERE POKED WITH SHELL MARKS, BUT THERE WAS NO OTHER EVIDENCE OF COMBAT ACTIVITIES. THEY REPORTED THAT CAPTURED MATERIALS INCLUDED SIX OR SEVEN BOXES OF MORTAR, RPG AND/OR BAZOOKA SHELLS, AND THREE OLD STEAM ENGINES IN THE REPAIR YARDS OF SNCZ. THERE WAS NO EVIDENCE OF THE TRAINS OR VEHICLES CAPTURED BY THE INVADERS FROM FAZ IN MUTSHATSHA ONE MONTH AGO. CONSULATE COMMENT: ALL INDICATIONS WOULD LEAD ONE TO BELIEVE INVADERS' WITHDRAWAL WAS ORDERLY AND PLANNED IN ADVANCE. ALTHOUGH INFORMATION FROM ALL OCCUPIED AREAS WAS SKETCHY DURING THE INVADERS' PRESENCE, THERE WERE STRONG INDICATIONS THAT LIFE CONTINUED NORMALLY IN THE OCCUPIED TOWNS. EITHER THE INVADERS COULD HAVE ORDERED THE ABANDONMENT OF THE TOWN OR THE PEOPLE COULD HAVE FLED ON THEIR OWN WHEN THEY REALIZED THAT THE INVADERS WERE DEPARTING AND FAZ WOULD BE ARRIVING.

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F. LIKASI: PRESIDENT MOBUTU AND HIS PARTY ARE SCHEDULED TO SPEND APRIL 27 IN SHABA'S SECOND LARGEST TOWN, LIKASI, WHERE LIFE HAS CONTINUED AT NORMAL PACE ALMOST WITHOUT INTERRUPTION SINCE THE INVASION BEGAN.

8. DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY: NIGERIAN FOMIN GARBA PASSED THROUGH KINSHASA YESTERDAY (APRIL 26) IN ROUTE TO LUBUMBASHI WHERE HE WOULD MEET MOBUTU. IN BRIEF AIRPORT PRESS INTERVIEW, GARBA STATED, "IN OFFERING THE GOOD OFFICES, NIGERIA SEEKS TO FIND A LASTING SOLUTION TO THE UNFORTUNATE INCIDENT ARISING BETWEEN ZAIRE AND ANGOLA. THE CHANCES FOR SUCCESS OF THE NIGERIAN MEDIATION DEPEND ESSENTIALLY ON THE GOOD WILL EXPRESSED BY THE TWO COUNTRIES AFFECTED BY WITH THE SEARCH FOR PEACE."

9. AMERICAN CITIZEN SITUATION:

A. METHODISTS AGAIN REPORTED NO CONTACT WITH MISSIONARIES IN KAPANGA ON APRIL 26.

B. CIS DEPUTY PROJECT MANAGER MILLER HAS ADVISED US THAT THEY PLAN TO RETURN NINE OR TEN-MAN EXPATRIATE MAINTENANCE TEAM TO KOLWEZI MONDAY, MAY 2 AND HAS ASKED US TO GET PERMISSION FROM GOZ AUTHORITIES.

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## Message Attributes

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